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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2005

(Translation) Bonn

G-329

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(Paris for Embassy, USRO, CINCEUR Thurston)

Thomas Gnielka, chief political reporter for West German weekly pictorial Welt im Bild, told Mission officer on February 28 that several men identifying themselves as Israeli intelligence agents had visited him at his home in January to give him copies of sworn statements allegedly made by Adolf Eichmann during preliminary investigation proceedings which, according to Gnielka, implicate West German State Secretary Hans Globke in ultimate responsibility for SS II death of 20,000 Jews from Northern Greece. Gnielka has given statements with proviso that they not be used prior to opening of Eichmann trial. He said that Israeli agents visited him ostensibly for purpose of obtaining information on Nazi crimes against Jews in light of series of Welt im Bild articles (Desp G-23) by Gnielka on former Auschwitz concentration camp. Gnielka stated that he and his wife will fly to Israel on April 9 or 10 for three weeks visit to view Eichmann trial and tour country on invitation of Israeli Justice Ministry.

EA 2
OAC 2
POL 2
USECOD 1
ECON 1
USIS 1
BIAS 1
ARSG 1
IO 1
BC 1
FSR 2

Gnielka said that he had been recently offered position of Press Attaché at West German Embassy Washington as well as position as Information Officer in Defense Ministry. He interpreted both offers as an attempt by the West German government to muzzle him.

Jan 30 and Feb 3 issues of Welt im Bild printed Nazi memoirs or documents from Reich Interior Ministry files on Interior Ministry measures implementing 1935 Hitler decree barring use by Jews of German first names. Globke's name appears on face of the documents as either action officer or coordinating officer. Gnielka, who wrote brief comments regarding significance of documents, obtained them from West German authorities in order to run in early issues.

COMMENT: Mission officer met Gnielka irregularly during assignment to Frankfurt (1951-1958) at which time Gnielka wrote feature articles for pro-CDU publication Rundschau and several SPD papers. Gnielka has at best minor contacts in the SPD-led Hessian coalition government and SPD Bonn circles which apparently he has continued to maintain.

CN 914

Coordinated: POL, USIS, [illegible] HIGHTOWER
EAS:FOY:mlseal
March 1.

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AUTH: Thompson

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